

Amendments to the Specification:

Commencing on a separate sheet, please replace the Abstract with the following rewritten Abstract:

ABSTRACT

A distributed MAC protocol that includes a superframe having a slotted Beaconsing Period and a data transfer period. The superframe includes a plurality of medium access slots which are assigned to the slotted Beaconsing Period. The Beaconsing Period length may be fixed or variable. The Beaconsing protocol defines initializing an ad hoc network by means of starting a Beaconsing Period, joining an existing Beaconsing Period of ad hoc network and resolving collisions during the Beaconsing Period.